

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 17, 2004

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Implications for U.S. Policy

Please join us for an on-the-record conversation about the implementation since 1999 of Sharia in northern Nigeria, the rise of Islamic extremism, and the state of Muslim-Christian relations. John Paden, professor of international studies at George Mason University, is a noted Africanist and one of the world's leading scholars on Northern Nigeria. He is the author of a recent study on "Islam and Democratic Federalism in Nigeria."

**WHO:** Professor John Paden, George Mason University

**WHEN:** 3PM Wednesday, February 18, 2004

**WHERE:**□ The Offices of The U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom, 800 North Capitol Street, NW STE 790, Washington, DC 20002

**CONTACT:** David Dettoni, Deputy Director for Outreach, 202-523-3253  
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**The U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom** was created by the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 to monitor the status of freedom of thought, conscience, and religion or belief abroad, as defined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and related international instruments, and to give independent policy recommendations to the President, the Secretary of State and the Congress.

Dean Michael K. Young ,  
- Felice D. Gaer ,